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(b) isolating mRNA from cells in the plurality to produce a heterologous population of mRNAs; and

(c) determining the level of expression of one or more of the mRNAs in the population of mRNAs, wherein the level(s) of expression constitute(s) a gene profile for the given stage of Alzheimer's disease.

58. The method of claim 57, wherein step (c) comprises producing antisense RNA transcripts from the population of mRNAs and amplifying the antisense RNA transcripts.

59. The method of claim 58, wherein the antisense RNA transcripts are quantitated, after amplification, by: (a) hybridization with cDNA; (b) sequence-based serial analysis; or (c) cDNA microarray analysis.

60. The method of claim 57, wherein the stage of Alzheimer's disease is determined by obtaining neuronal cells from the patient and viewing at least one of the neuronal cells through a microscope.

61. The method of claim 60, wherein the stage of Alzheimer's disease is determined by the degree to which the neuronal cells, when viewed through the microscope, appear filled with neurofibrillary tangles.

62. The method of claim 61, wherein the stage of Alzheimer's disease is a stage at which the neuronal cells lack frank neurofibrillary tangles.

63. The method of claim 57, wherein the stage of Alzheimer's disease is determined by obtaining neuronal cells from the patient and exposing at least one of the neuronal cells to two or more antibodies.

Be cont'd